Serial No. 09/804,267
Docket No. F-40(CROWN)/HO

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously presented) A synthetic resin container closure for closing a container having a mouth-neck portion with an external diameter D2 and an internal diameter D4, said container closure comprising:

a circular top panel wall;

a cylindrical skirt wall extending downwardly from the peripheral edge of the top panel wall and formed from a synthetic resin as a single unit with the top panel wall;

an outer cylindrical sealing protrusion extending downwardly from the inner surface of the top panel wall and having a minimum internal diameter D1;

an inner cylindrical sealing protrusion extending downwardly from the inner surface of the top panel wall and having a maximum external diameter D3; and

an annular sealing ridge located between the outer cylindrical sealing protrusion and the inner cylindrical sealing protrusion and projecting downwardly from the inner surface of the top panel wall, wherein:

$0.05 \text{ mm} \leqq (D2 - D1) \leqq 0.60 \text{ mm}$, and $0.25 \text{ mm} \leqq (D3 - D4) \leqq 1.50 \text{ mm}$, so that when the container closure is mounted on the mouth-neck portion of the container, the inner peripheral surface of the outer cylindrical sealing protrusion is in close contact with the outer peripheral surface of the mouth-neck portion, the outer peripheral surface of the inner cylindrical sealing protrusion is in close contact with the inner peripheral surface of the mouth-neck portion, and the annular sealing ridge is in close contact with the top surface of the mouth-neck portion.

2. (Previously presented) The container closure of claim 1, wherein the outer peripheral surface of the inner cylindrical sealing protrusion extends downwardly with an outward inclination at an angle θ1 with respect to the center axis of the container closure and then extends downwardly with an inward inclination at an angle θ2 with respect to the center axis.

3. (Previously presented) The container closure of claim 2, wherein the inclination angle θ1 is 5° to 25° and the inclination angle θ2 is 5° to 30°.

4. (Previously presented) The container closure of claim 2, wherein the inner peripheral surface of the inner cylindrical sealing protrusion extends downwardly with an outward inclination at an angle θ3 with respect to the center axis, and then extends substantially parallel with the center axis.

5. (Previously presented) The container closure of claim 2, wherein the outer peripheral surface of the inner cylindrical sealing protrusion has the maximum external diameter D3 at a position spaced from the inner surface of the top panel wall by a length L1 of 2.50 mm to 3.50 mm.

6. (Previously presented) The container closure of claim 4, wherein the inclination angle θ3 of the inner peripheral surface of the inner cylindrical sealing protrusion is larger than the inclination angle θ1 of the outer peripheral surface of the inner cylindrical sealing protrusion

at a position above the position having the maximum external diameter D3.

7. (Previously presented) The container closure of claim 1, wherein the inner peripheral surface of the outer cylindrical sealing protrusion extends downwardly with an inward inclination at an angle θ4 with respect to the center axis, and then extends outwardly in a radial direction.

8. (Previously presented) The container closure of claim 7, wherein the inclination angle θ4 is 13° to 23°.

9. (Previously presented) The container closure of claim 7, wherein the outer peripheral surface of the outer cylindrical sealing protrusion extends downwardly in such a manner that it is inclined inward in a radial direction at an inclination angle θ5 with respect to the center axis.

10. (Previously presented) The container closure of claim 9, wherein the inclination angle θ5 is larger than the inclination angle θ4 and is 15° to 25°.

11. (Previously presented) The container closure of claim 7, wherein the inner peripheral surface of the outer cylindrical sealing protrusion has the minimum internal diameter D1 at a position spaced from the inner surface of the top panel wall by a length L2 of 0.60 mm to 1.50 mm.

12. (Previously presented) The container closure of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of ribs formed on the inner surface of a center portion of the top panel wall, within the inner cylindrical sealing protrusion, the center portion having a thickness T1 of 0.80 mm to 1.20 mm, each of the ribs having a thickness T2 of 0.20 mm to 1.00 mm, and the total (T1 + T2) of the thickness T1 and the thickness T2 is 1.20 mm to 1.80 mm.

13. (Previously presented) The container closure of claim 12, wherein the thickness T1 is 0.90 mm to 1.10 mm.

14. (Previously presented) The container closure of claim 12, wherein the thickness T2 is 0.30 mm to 0.50 mm.

15. (Previously presented) The container closure of claim 12, wherein the total (T1 + T2) of the thickness T1 and the thickness T2 is 1.30 mm to 1.50 mm.

16. (Original) The container closure of claim 12, wherein the ribs extend radially.

17. (Original) The container closure of claim 16, wherein the ribs are arranged at equiangular intervals and extend continuously from the center of the center portion to the peripheral edge of the top panel wall.

18. (Previously presented) The container closure of claim 12, wherein the ribs have a rectangular cross section, the area of the center portion of the top panel wall is S1, the total area of the ribs is S2, and $0.10S1 < S2 < 0.40S1$.

19. (Previously presented) The container closure of claim 18, wherein $0.15S1 < S2 < 0.35S1$.

20-35. (Canceled)

36. (Previously presented) A beverage container and closure, comprising:

a container having a mouth-neck portion with an external diameter D2 and an internal diameter D4; and

a container closure formed from a synthetic resin as a single unit and having a circular top panel wall, a cylindrical skirt wall extending downwardly from the peripheral edge of the top panel wall, an outer cylindrical sealing protrusion extending downwardly from the inner surface of the top panel wall and having a minimum internal diameter D1, an inner cylindrical sealing protrusion extending downwardly from the inner surface of the top panel wall and having a maximum external diameter D3, and an annular sealing ridge located between the outer cylindrical sealing protrusion and the inner cylindrical sealing protrusion and projecting downwardly from the inner surface of the top panel wall, wherein:

$0.05 \text{ mm} \leqq (D2 - D1) \leqq 0.60 \text{ mm}$, and $0.25 \text{ mm} \leq (D3 - D4) \leq 1.50 \text{ mm}$, so that when the container closure is mounted on the mouth-neck portion of the container, the inner

peripheral surface of the outer cylindrical sealing protrusion is in close contact with the outer peripheral surface of the mouth-neck portion, the outer peripheral surface of the inner cylindrical sealing protrusion is in close contact with the inner peripheral surface of the mouth-neck portion, and the annular sealing ridge is in close contact with the top surface of the mouth-neck portion.